September 20, 1999

Docket No. 97N-0074

8526 '99 OCT -5 AIO:19

In reference to the Presidents' Inter-Agency Council on Food safety I wish to make the following comments.

On all matters we must go to the source. Food from food animals cannot be safe when there is overcrowding of animals which causes great stress to the animal. We cannot feed animals chicken litter and feces, rendering diseased animals into animal feed, excessive use of antibiotics and other drugs, and inhumane and unhygienic transport and slaughter.

Animals that are by nature vegetarians simply cannot be fed animal products. If this law of nature had been upheld we would not have had "Mad Cow" disease in the world.

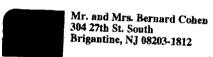
Food safety hazards first and foremost need to be addressed at the source, with mandatory safeguards at the animal production stage. These include more humane and hygienic treatment and conditions for farm animals.

Lastly, but not least, regulatory authority at the production stafe must be expanded, with adequate funding for same.

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